

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary
AWEP 2012 SE Lake MI Cropland

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: AWEP 2012 SE Lake MI Cropland		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer implement conservation practices which:	
3. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean Air: Treatment of air quality from agricultural sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
4. a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO2 (Carbon Dioxide), CH4 (Methane), and N2O (Nitrous Oxide)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
6. a. Benefit on-farm habitat associated with threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project assist the producer implement practices which:	

7. a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
8. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP (122,124)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
9. a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.(400 Points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. This application will result in the application of all the measures of an existing CNMP or other Activity-Based Plan. (45 Points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. This application will result in the following four (4) items implemented as a system on the same land unit in at least 3 consecutive years (50 points) a. (329) - Continuous No-Till meeting the 329 standard; b. (590) - Nutrient Management meeting the 590 standard (No fall commercial nitrogen applications for spring-seeded crops unless an inhibitor is used; DAP and MAP are allowed, but not on frozen or snow-covered ground); c. (340) - Cover Crops (unharvested); d. (327/342/386/390/391/393) - Buffers adjacent to all water bodies and on at least 2% of the land unit acres.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. This application will address a ground or surface water quality concern in a 303(d) watershed or a watershed with a developed TMDL for non-point source impairment using the FY13 Ranking Tool (Question 4(1) or Question 4(2)). (30 Points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Any part of the application acres lies in one or more identified priority resource concern areas listed in the FY11 Indiana State Resource Assessment, as identified through the FY13 Ranking Tool and the application includes practices that will address one or more of those concerns. (35 Points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. This application includes one or more practices that will address an identified surface water quality resource concern and is located within a Surface Drinking Watershed Area identified through the FY13 Ranking Tool. (30 Points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. This application includes one or more practices that address an identified groundwater quality resource concern and the offered acreage is within the Indiana karst region OR the offered acreage contains soils with a Leachability Index of 10 or higher as identified through the FY13 Ranking Tool. (20 Points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. This application is based on a conservation plan that has been approved by the producer (signed) prior to October 1, 2012. (20 Points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. This application will address an existing invasives species concern and where applicable will occur in concert with neighboring landowners also addressing invasive species. (20 points) a. To receive points for this question, one of the following must apply: i. applicant's treatment area is adjacent to neighboring areas with invasive species concerns, and all parties have a signed Conservation Plan/Forest Management Plan to treat invasive species (314, 315, or 595). ii. applicant's treatment area is isolated from other similar habitat (e.g. wooded area	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

surrounded by crop fields). In these cases, points can be awarded without neighbor collaboration.	
10. This application will address an existing resource concern caused by the production of specialty crops (including USDA Certified Organic). (30 Points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. This application will address existing resource concerns using forestry practices per the Indiana EQIP Guidelines. (20 Points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. This application will use only wildlife friendly grasses (as identified by the FOTG Standard 645) for vegetative practices. (20 Points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. This application is from an applicant (by Tax ID number) who has not participated in EQIP in the past, or if they have had a prior-approved contract, it is/has been in good standing. (30 Points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. This application includes less than three (3) contract items OR all practices under contract are scheduled to be completed within two years of the obligation date? (20 Points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. This application includes one of the following practices: 329, 340, 345, 449, 528, 554, 585, 590, 592, 595, 644 and/or 647 and the applicant (by Tax ID number) has not received EQIP Financial Assistance for the same practice scenario within the last 5 years. (30 Points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
16. Has the applicant (by Tax ID number) had prior year EQIP, WHIP, or CSP contracts which were cancelled or terminated due to contract violation(s) within the past three program years? (-200 Points) a. A violation must be noted in the assistance notes, NRCS-CPA-13, NRCS-CPA-153, or Indiana Corrective Action Plan. A contract cancellation due to documented hardship does not meet this criteria.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. This application will address the most important local resource priority. (57 Points) DeKalb - Water Quality Degradation - Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters Elkhart - Water Quality Degradation - Excess Nutrients in Surface and Ground waters Kosciusko - Water Quality Degradation - Excess Nutrients in Surface and Ground waters LaGrange - Water Quality Degradation - Excess Nutrients in Surface and Ground waters Noble - Soil Quality Degradation - Organic Matter Depletion St. Joseph - Soil Erosion - Sheet, Rill, and wind Steuben - Water Quality Degradation - Excess Nutrients in Surface and Ground waters	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. This application will address the second-most important local resource priority. (40 Points) DeKalb - Water Quality Degradation - Excess Nutrients in Surface and Ground waters Elkhart - Soil Quality Degradation - Organic Matter Depletion Kosciusko - Soil Quality Degradation - Organic Matter Depletion LaGrange - Water Quality Degradation - Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications Noble - Soil Quality Degradation - Compaction St. Joseph - Soil Quality Degradation - Organic Matter Depletion Steuben - Water Quality Degradation - Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. This application will address the third-most important local resource priority. (35 Points) DeKalb - Soil Erosion - Concentrated Flow Elkhart - Water Quality Degradation - Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications Kosciusko - Water Quality Degradation - Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters LaGrange - Water Quality Degradation - Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters Noble - Water Quality Degradation - Excess Nutrients in Surface and Ground waters St. Joseph - Fish and Wildlife - Habitat Degradation Steuben - Soil Erosion - Excessive bank erosion from streams or shorelines or water conveyance channels	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. This application will address the fourth-most important local resource priority. (30 Points) DeKalb - Soil Quality Degradation - Organic Matter Depletion Elkhart - Water Quality Degradation - Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters Kosciusko - Soil Erosion - Excessive bank erosion from streams or shorelines or water conveyance channels LaGrange - Excess/insufficient water - inefficient use of irrigation water Noble - Water Quality Degradation - Pesticides transported to surface and ground waters St. Joseph - Inefficient energy use - Farming/Ranching practices and field operations Steuben - Soil Quality Degradation - Organic Matter Depletion	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. This application will address the fifth-most important local resource priority. (25 Points) DeKalb - Fish and Wildlife - Habitat Degradation Elkhart - Water Quality Degradation - Pesticides transported to surface and ground waters Kosciusko - Soil Erosion - Sheet, Rill, and Wind LaGrange - Livestock Production Limitation - inadequate feed and forage Noble - Soil Quality Degradation - Subsidence St. Joseph - Water Quality Degradation - Excess Nutrients in Surface and Ground waters Steuben - 14 digit priority watershed - 040500011-0030	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. This application will address the sixth-most important local resource priority. (20 Points) DeKalb - Degraded Plant Condition - Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health Elkhart - Soil Quality Degradation - Compaction Kosciusko - Soil Quality Degradation - Compaction LaGrange - Fish and Wildlife - Habitat Degradation Noble - Livestock Production limitation - inadequate feed and forage St. Joseph - Degraded Plant Condition -	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Excessive Plant Pest Pressure Steuben - Soil Erosion - Sheet, Rill, and Wind	
7. This application will address the seventh-most important local resource priority. (17 Points) DeKalb - Degraded Plant Condition - Excessive Plant Pest Pressure Elkhart - Excess/insufficient water - inefficient use of irrigation water Kosciusko - Water Quality Degradation - pesticides transported to surface and ground waters LaGrange - Soil Quality Degradation - Organic Matter Depletion Kosciusko - Soil Quality Degradation - Organic Matter Depletion Noble - Soil Erosion - Sheet, Rill, and Wind St. Joseph - Livestock Production Limitation - Inadequate Feed and Forage Steuben - Soil Erosion - Concentrated Flow	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. This application will address the eighth-most important local resource priority. (12 Points) DeKalb - Soil Quality Degradation - Compaction Elkhart - Degraded plant condition - undesirable plant productivity and health Kosciusko - Fish and Wildlife - Habitat Degradation LaGrange - Livestock production limitation - inadequate livestock water Noble - Air Quality Impacts - Emissions of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) St. Joseph - Excess/Insufficient Water - Inefficient use of irrigation water Steuben - Fish and Wildlife - Habitat Degradation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. This application will address the ninth-most important local resource priority. (9 Points) DeKalb - Water Quality Degradation - Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications Elkhart - Degraded Plant Condition - Excessive Plant Pest Pressure Kosciusko - Priority 14-digit watershed - Silver Creek Watershed LaGrange - Soil Quality Degradation - Compaction Noble - Water Quality Degradation - Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters St. Joseph - Livestock Production Limitation - Inadequate Livestock water Steuben - Soil Quality Degradation - Compaction	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. This application will address the tenth-most important local resource priority. (5 Points) DeKalb - Air Quality Impacts - Emissions of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) Elkhart - Excess/insufficient water - inefficient moisture management Kosciusko - 14-digit priority watershed - Yellow Creek Lake Watershed LaGrange - Soil erosion - Sheet, Rill, and Wind Noble - Inefficient Energy Use - Farming/Ranching practices and field operations St. Joseph - Degraded Plant Condition - Inadequate Structure and composition Steuben - Excess/Insufficient Water - Ponding, Flooding, Seasonal High Water Table, Seeps, Drifted Snow	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency: Local Issues: State Issues: National Issues: Final Ranking Score:
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:
Signature Date:	Signature Date: